

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims as follows.

1. (original) A laboratory animal breeding device comprising breeding cages, each of the breeding cages including a cage body a part of the cage body being opened and a removable cover for hermetically sealing the opening in the cage body, characterized in that:

an air supply device for ventilation inside the breeding cage is attached to the cover of the breeding cage, the breeding cage comprising an air exhaust device, the air supply device being formed of a fan filter unit comprising a fan device and a first filter, and the air exhaust device being formed of an air exhaust opening formed in the breeding cage and a second filter for cleaning air in the breeding cage passing through the air exhaust opening; and

air outside the breeding cage is taken into the breeding cage while being cleaned by the fan filter unit, and contaminated air in the breeding cage is exhausted from the air exhaust opening through the second filter to outside of the breeding cage.

2. (original) A laboratory animal breeding device according to claim 1, further comprising breeding racks, each of the breeding racks comprising a rack body having a plurality of horizontally extending shelf boards, the shelf boards being vertically arranged at predetermined intervals, a space between the shelf boards forming a cage receiving portion, and the breeding cage being placed in the cage receiving portion.

3. (original) A laboratory animal breeding device according to claim 2, wherein:

the breeding rack comprises an air exhaust box attached to a rear surface of the rack body;

the air exhaust box has an air exhaust chamber formed therein, the air exhaust box has an exhaust opening communicating with the cage receiving portion; and

the contaminated air in the breeding cage exhausted from the air exhaust opening of the breeding cage to the cage receiving portion is exhausted from the exhaust opening into the air exhaust chamber.

4. (currently amended) A laboratory animal breeding device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the air supply device is removably attached to the cover of the breeding cage.

5. (currently amended) A laboratory animal breeding device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the air supply device is removably attached to the shelf board of the breeding rack.

6. (currently amended) A laboratory animal breeding device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1 further comprising a state monitoring device for displaying a state of operation of the fan filter unit for supplying air to the breeding cage.

7. (original) A laboratory animal breeding device according to claim 6, wherein the state monitoring device is a display portion attached to an outer surface of the fan filter unit.

8. (currently amended) A laboratory animal breeding device according to ~~any one of claims 2 to 7~~ claim 2, wherein:

the breeding rack comprises an electric power supply terminal for supplying driving electric power to the fan filter unit of the breeding cage placed in the cage receiving portion and a communication unit for transmitting the state of operation of the fan filter unit;

the breeding cage comprises a terminal and an interface connectable to the electric power supply terminal and the communication unit, respectively; and

by placing the breeding cage in the cage receiving portion of the breeding rack, the terminal of the breeding cage is connected to the electric power supply terminal and the interface of the breeding cage can be electrically connected to the communication unit.